

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior claims, and listings of claims, in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for realizing metering pulses in the Next Generation Network (NGN), comprising the steps of:

delivering a metering pulse information message from a media gateway controller to a media gateway ~~a metering pulse information message, the metering pulse information message including an indication of a particular group of metering pulse information to be selected by the media gateway;~~

selecting, by the media gateway, one of a plurality of groups of metering pulse information provided at the media gateway according to the indication of the particular group of metering pulse information to be selected, each of the plurality of groups of metering pulse information including a respective total number of metering pulses to be transmitted and a respective transmission interval between two adjacent metering pulses; and

~~selecting, by the media gateway according to an indication of the received metering pulse information message, one group of a number of metering pulses to be transmitted and a transmission interval between two adjacent metering pulses from numbers of metering pulses to be transmitted and transmission intervals between two adjacent metering pulses which are provided in the media gateway, wherein the numbers of the metering pulses to be transmitted and the transmission intervals between adjacent metering pulses are configured in a plurality of groups; and~~

transmitting, by the media gateway, the metering pulses periodically to a user equipment according to the obtained number of metering pulses to be transmitted and the transmission interval between two adjacent metering pulses included in the selected group of metering pulse information.

2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises the step of:

terminating the transmission of the metering pulses when the media gateway detects an event or when the media gateway controller delivers an information message for interrupting the metering pulses.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein a the type of the metering pulses is an On/Off or a Brief signal, and

if the type of the metering pulses is the On/off signal, the transmission of the metering pulses is continued until being terminated; and

if the type of the metering pulses is the Brief signal, the transmission of the metering pulses comes to an end after all the a number of metering pulses equal to the selected number of metering pulses to be transmitted, the number of which is as specified, have been transmitted.

5. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the user equipment is a digital telephone.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the metering pulses are defined by as following:

a the signal type of the metering pulses that is an On/Off signal, and a the pulse type and a the duration of the metering pulses that are provision variables;

a the parameter type of a Pulse Count of a first signal parameter is an a non-negative integer which is the defines a number of pulses and has a default value, the possible values are non-negative integers and may be default; and

a the parameter type of a Pulse Interval of a second signal parameter is an a positive integer in which defines a number of milliseconds and does not have a default value millisecond, the possible values are positive integers and may not be default.

7-11 (canceled)

12. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the information message is a media Gateway Control Protocol message.